

Message Text

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61

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 INT-08 SSO-00 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 INRE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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O 142215Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8526

INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 2566

FOR COMMERCE OIM

FOR DEPT OF INT BUREAU OF MINES

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA NZ

SUBJECT: EXPORT: U.S. VISIT OF OFFICIAL OF GNZ MINES DEPARTMENT

1. MR. WM. MUNDEN, MANAGER OF A GNZ EXPERIMENTAL COAL MINE IS PLANNING AN OVERSEAS TRIP TO INSPECT MINING TECHNIQUES AND EQUIPMENT. IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN CHECKING LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN HIGHLY MECHANIZED MINING METHODS.

2. MINES DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS WITH WHOM EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED PLANS FOR EXPANDING COAL MINING ACTIVITIES HAS SHOWN GREAT DEAL OF INTEREST IN COMPARING "UNDERGROUND ROAD HEADING MACHINES" (OR TUNNELING) TYPE OF COAL MINING MACHINERY PRODUCED IN THE U.S. WITH THAT AVAILABLE FROM U.K. AND CONTINENTAL SOURCES. WE UNDERSTAND ROAD HEADERS TO BE CONTINUOUS MINING EQUIPMENT THAT CUTS AN ARCHED RATHER THAN A FLAT ROOF. PROMINENTLY MENTIONED AS FIRMS PRODUCING "ROAD HEADING MACHINES" KNOWN TO NEW ZEALAND MINING ENGINEERS ARE; "DOSCO" OF THE UK., M AND C MADE BY MAVER AND COLSON OF THE U.K., A ROAD HEADER MADE BY MITSUI OF JAPAN, AND THE "ALPINE" OF AUSTRIA.

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NOTE: GNZ PRESENTLY USING LEE-NORSE CONTINUOUS MINER IN ONE

OF ITS MINES WITH GREAT SUCCESS. THIS EQUIPMENT CUTS
FLAT ROOF.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING ASAP, AND NOT LATER
THAN AUGUST 21, THE NAMES OF U.S. SUPPLIERS WHOSE
EQUIPMENT IN THE CATEGORY OF COAL MINING UNDERGROUND
ROAD HEADING MACHINERY IS COMPETITIVE WITH THE ABOVE
LISTED EUROPEAN MACHINERY. EMBASSY WILL ADVISE MINES
DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND SUGGEST THAT MUNDEN VISIT U.S.
COMPANIES AND/OR MINES PRODUCING AND USING THIS TYPE
OF EQUIPMENT. EMBASSY SEES THIS AS EXCELLENT
OPPORTUNITY TO DISPLAY AMERICAN COAL MINING EQUIPMENT
UNDER FAVORABLE CIRCUMSTANCES TO A KEY GNZ OFFICIAL
IN POSITION TO INFLUENCE FUTURE DECISIONS ON THE
PURCHASE OF MINING EQUIPMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974WELLIN02566
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740223-0993
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740846/aaaabniy.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPORT: U.S. VISIT OF OFFICIAL OF GNZ MINES DEPARTMENT
TAGS: BTRA, NZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005